

CRA Regional Radio Scholarship

GDRP

Guidelines - 2027

Applications open 29 June
and close 17 November 2026

AFTRS

Australian Film Television
and Radio School



Eligibility and application information

Who can apply?

You can apply for this scholarship if you:

- Reside outside the metropolitan areas of Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Perth and Brisbane*,
- Are an applicant for a place in the Graduate Diploma in Radio and Podcasting course in 2027,
- And are an Australian citizen or Australian permanent resident or a New Zealand citizen.

NOTE: * As identified on the license area map at cra.au/find-a-station.

Purpose

Commercial Radio and Audio (CRA) is the peak industry body representing the interests of Australia's commercial radio broadcasters.

The scholarship, valued at \$10,000, is intended to support students who reside outside the metropolitan capital cities in regional Australia, and who are passionate about working for a radio station in their local community. It provides a contribution to living expenses and study costs.

A 2-week paid internship with a commercial radio station and or podcasting division (at a location to be agreed with CRA) is also offered in the latter stage of the course.

How to apply

Firstly, apply for the course in AFTRS application portal. Then, check which scholarships you are eligible for.

You may select one or all of the scholarships recommended. Apply by providing the requested information and documents before the closing date.

All applications will be treated confidentially.

Application dates

Applications open 29 June and close 17 November 2026.

Dates are subject to change. Please check AFTRS website for updates.

Application tasks

Upload the following:

1. A personal statement, in approx. 500 words or 2 minutes of audio, that tells us your story and what this scholarship would mean to you including;
 - a. Why you're interested in storytelling through radio and podcasting,
 - b. What studying at AFTRS means to you, and
 - c. How receiving this scholarship would affect your studies, and you and or your community.

2. Why regional radio?

Tell us in an audio segment*, approx. 2 mins long, why you think regional radio is important. You should include why it is important to you as an individual, to your local community, or to Australian society more broadly.

3. Your preferred regional work placement.

Tell us, in approx. 500 words, which commercial radio stations, towns or regional centres would be your ideal work placement locations. List at least three broadcasters or locations which you are able to get to. Please only nominate towns and regional centres where a commercial radio station exists.

*Audio can be recorded on any device/s including smart phones. We are not assessing your technical skills or access to equipment. Recordings must be submitted as MP3 files.

What we're looking for

A selection panel will review all applications and decide who will be awarded the scholarship.

The panel will consider your personal statement and any additional information, such as your understanding of regional radio.

The panel may contact you by email to request further information or supporting documents if needed to make a final decision.

The scholarship may not be awarded if no applicant meets the eligibility criteria.

All decisions are final and cannot be reviewed or discussed.

Certification of documents

Most supporting documents must be certified copies with the exception of original digital files and medical documentation.

You can find AFTRS' certification requirements here:

www.aftrs.edu.au/students/future-students/how-to-apply/.

Translation of documents

If your supporting documents are not in English, please provide certified copies of the following:

- The document in the original language; and
- An English translation of the document by an accredited translator. Do not send original supporting documents.

General information

You do not have to complete your application in one sitting. Save your application and log back in at any time prior to the closing date to pick up where you left off.

Documents must include your legal name.

Medical documentation must include your full legal name and your health practitioner's registration number and Medicare provider number.

Screenshots are not accepted.

File names must be clear and descriptive, using only letters and numbers (no symbols).

The maximum file size is 3 GB.

We ask that you submit your own original work. This means work created in full or in part using generative AI tools should not be included.

What happens next

Notification of outcome

You will be notified by email whether your application is successful in late December.

Payments

The maximum value of this scholarship is \$10,000, payable over the duration of the course. Scholarship payments are based on the number of units in which you are enrolled per semester. One instalment will be paid each semester after the relevant census dates.

Study must commence in the academic year for which you are applying.

Payments will continue while you stay enrolled, meet the eligibility criteria, and follow the expectations in the Student Handbook and AFTRS Code of Conduct.

Scholarship conditions

You must have accepted an offer in the 2027 Graduate Diploma in Radio and Podcasting course.

You cannot defer the commencement of the scholarship.

The successful applicant will be asked to supply evidence of residing outside the metropolitan capital cities of Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Perth and Brisbane, such as a bank statement, Centrelink correspondence, utilities bill, rent receipt, property lease or drivers' license.

AFTRS and CRA may create public communications related to this scholarship. Throughout the course you may/will be asked to take part in communications, impact surveys, provide updates or attend scholarship-related events.

We will always seek your consent before using your image or quoting you in AFTRS internal or external communications.

Participation is completely optional. Choosing not to take part will not affect your scholarship.

Support and enquiries

If you have questions about this scholarship, your eligibility or access needs, please contact our Scholarships Team.

Asking questions will not affect your application.

02 9805 6622

scholarships@aftrs.edu.au

aftrs.edu.au/scholarships

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